

– Listing of Claims –

**Claims 1-3** (Canceled without prejudice to filing a further application on the subject matter(s) thereof.)

Allowable Claim 4 (Amended to include the substantive limitations of Claim 1 as rewritten in Amendment “A” and Claims 2-3 upon all of which Claim 4 had depended, putting Claim 4 into independent form, which, as noted by the Examiner, would make the claim in condition for being fully allowed.)

~~1. The method of Claim 3,~~

A method of relaxing for someone sitting in a seat, with the someone being a user and having a neck, a chin having sides and a front, and a chest having a central, upper portion, comprising the following steps:

- 5        a) placing a block of self-supporting material, -  
- having a soft top with a curved, angled depression forming a cup  
for the chin adjacent to but spaced from the neck, between the chin and the  
user’s chest, and  
- having a bottom for contacting the user’s chest supporting the  
10        user’s head through the solid block on the user’s chest,

wherein the block of supportive material has a central shank portion with a reduced lateral size in comparison with its top and its bottom which are larger in their

respective lateral sizes, and wherein, in association with step "a," there is included the further step of:

15 \_\_\_\_\_ holding the block of supportive material about its central, shank portion in one of the user's hand while the solid block is being placed between the user's chin and chest;

b) securing the block of material in place on the user with the cup of the block of material interfacing with for full support the user's chin, and with the bottom  
20 of the block of material resting on the central upper portion of the user's chest, while positioned in front of the user's neck,

b-1) looping an elongated, flexible member, having end portions, and which is attached to the block of supportive material, around the user's head; and

25 \_\_\_\_\_ b-2) securing the end portions of the elongated member, causing the loop to be fixed around the back of the user's neck, wherein the flexible member is a flexible line and there is further included a push-button/barrel lock through which the end portions of the elongated line pass; and

wherein, in association with step "b-2," there is further included the steps of:

30 \_\_\_\_\_ pressing the push button and moving portions of the flexible line through the lock until the block of supportive material is positioned between the chin and the chest of the user in contact with both of them, and then releasing the push button, securing the end portions of the flexible line, attaching the block to the user's body about the user's neck; and

35 c) allowing the chin to rest in the cup of the block of supportive material while secured to the user, who is relaxing, producing not only full support beneath the user's chin but also frontal contact with the front of the chin and support along the sides of the chin, while the user is sitting in a seat.

**Claim 6** (Deleted, Amendment "A")

**Claims 7-9** (Canceled, without prejudice to filing a further application on the subject matter(s) thereof.)

**Claim 10** (Deleted, Amendment "A")

**Claims 11-27** (All Allowed as presented below.)

~~2~~ ~~11~~. A head support system for supporting the head of a user while the user is sitting, the user having a neck, a chin having sides and a chest having a central upper portion, comprising:

5 a block of self-supporting but soft, molded material having a central shank portion, a top portion placeable under and around and in front of the user's chin in supportive, "face-to-face" surface engagement therewith, while the block of material is positioned in front of the user's neck, and a bottom portion placeable on the central upper portion of the user's chest when the user's chin is fully supported in said depression area by said block of material;

10           said top portion having a centrally located, curved, contoured, depression  
area which is downwardly angled toward the user when viewed from the side and also  
angled downwardly toward the user with upwardly extending sides substantially  
forming a combined "U" & "V" shape when viewed from the front, said depression  
area forming a cup into which the user's chin is placed, providing the user's chin with  
15   not only full support beneath the user's chin but also support on the front of the chin  
and along the sides of the chin; and

an attachment subsystem connected to said block capable of securing  
the block in place under the user's chin.

<sup>3</sup>  
~~12~~. The head support system of Claim ~~11~~<sup>2</sup>, wherein:

said bottom has a bottom surface which is upwardly angled toward the  
user's neck when secured to the user below the chin and is capable of supporting said  
block of material and the weight of the user's head on the central, upper portion of  
5 the user's chest.

<sup>4</sup>  
~~13~~. The head support system of Claim ~~12~~<sup>3</sup>, wherein:

said bottom surface is flat.

<sup>5</sup>  
14. The head support system of Claim ~~12~~<sup>3</sup>, wherein:

said block has a central, longitudinally extended axis; and

wherein:

5       said bottom portion is angled up at its rear at about a forty-five (45°)  
degree angle with respect to said central longitudinally extended axis, causing  
the device to rise, rather than uncomfortably "dig in" to the user's body, as it  
is moved back, strengthening the engagement of the device with the user's chin  
area, preventing or at least discouraging the device from being moved back  
against the user's throat.

<sup>6</sup>  
15. The head support system of Claim ~~11~~<sup>2</sup>, wherein the user has a hand and

wherein:

said shank portion has rounded sides and is of a dimension and  
configuration that is easily grippable in the hand of an adult user.

<sup>7</sup>  
16. The head support system of Claim ~~11~~<sup>2</sup>, wherein said attachment subsystem  
comprises:

an elongated, flexible member attached to said block of material capable  
of extending in a loop around the user's neck.

<sup>8</sup>  
~~17~~. The head support system of Claim ~~16~~<sup>7</sup>, wherein:

said elongated, flexible includes a strap member forming most of said loop and a attached string like member with two terminal ends extending out to and past the front of said block of material moveably attached thereto.

<sup>9</sup>  
~~18~~. The head support system of Claim ~~17~~<sup>8</sup>, wherein:

said two terminal ends have front portions which are lockably attached together by means of a push button latch which allows said ends to be moved with respect to said latch when said button is depressed.

<sup>10</sup>  
~~19~~. The head support system of Claim ~~18~~<sup>2</sup>, wherein:

said block of material is a solid material.

<sup>11</sup>  
~~20~~. The head support system of Claim ~~19~~<sup>27</sup>, wherein:

said top portion is wider than said central shank portion.

<sup>12</sup>  
~~21~~. A method of relaxing for someone traveling while sitting upright in a seat, with the someone being a user and having a neck, a chin having sides and a front, and a chest having a central, upper portion, comprising the following steps:

a) placing a block of self-supporting material, –

– having a top and a soft top with a curved, angled depression forming a cup for the chin adjacent to but spaced from the neck, the block of

supportive material having a central shank portion with a reduced lateral size in comparison with its top and its bottom which are larger in their respective lateral sizes,

10 between the chin and the user's chest by holding the block of supportive material about its central, shank portion in one of the user's hand while the block is being placed between the user's chin and chest, and

– having a bottom for contacting the user's chest

supporting the user's head through the solid block on the user's chest;

15 b) securing the block of material in place on the user with the cup of the block of material interfacing with for full support the user's chin, and with the bottom of the block of material resting on the central upper portion of the user's chest, and while positioned in front of the user's neck; and

c) allowing the chin to rest in the cup of the block of supportive material

20 while secured to the user, producing not only full support beneath the user's chin but also frontal contact with the front of the chin and support along the sides of the chin.

<sup>13</sup>  
~~22~~ 22. The method of Claim <sup>12</sup>~~21~~, wherein in step "b" there is further included the steps of:

b-1) looping an elongated, flexible member, having end portions, and which is attached to the block of supportive material, around the user's head; and

5 b-2) securing the end portions of the elongated member, causing the loop to be fixed around the back of the user's neck.

<sup>14</sup>  
~~23.~~ The method of ~~Claim 22~~<sup>13</sup>, wherein the flexible member is a flexible line and there is further included a push-button/barrel lock through which the end portions of the elongated line pass; and wherein, in association with step "b-2," there is further included the steps of:

- 5           pressing the push button and moving portions of the flexible line through the lock until the block of supportive material is positioned between the chin and the chest of the user in contact with both of them, and then releasing the push button, securing the end portions of the flexible line, attaching the block to the user's body about the user's neck.

<sup>15</sup>  
~~24.~~ The method of ~~Claim 21~~<sup>12</sup>, wherein said block of supportive material is longitudinally elongated with two laterally extended ends, and there is further included an around-the-back-of-the-neck loop associated with the block in front of the neck, and wherein there is included, in association with steps "a" & "b," the steps

5 of:

          lessening the size of the loop by pulling it in, while using the laterally extended ends of the block of supportive material's contacts with the user's chin area and the user's upper, central chest area to prevent the block from contacting at least the central part of the user's throat as the size of the loop is lessened and pulled in.

<sup>16</sup>  
~~25~~. The method of Claim <sup>17</sup>~~21~~, wherein, in association with step "a," there is further included the steps of:

placing the block of material with its soft top with its curved, angled depression up and around the user's chin, contacting the chin's front, sides, and  
5 bottom, including over in front, along side and around the mental protuberance and the central cleft area of the mandible of the user.

<sup>17</sup>  
~~26~~. The method of Claim <sup>21</sup>~~21~~, wherein, in association with step "a," there is further included the steps of:

placing the block of material with its bottom in contact and being supported on the user's manubrium sterni, approaching but spaced from the bottom  
5 tracheal cartilages of the user's neck.

<sup>18</sup>  
~~27~~. The method of Claim <sup>21</sup>~~21~~, wherein, in association with step "a," there is further included the steps of:

a-1) placing the block of material with its soft top with its curved, angled depression up and around the user's chin, contacting the chin's front, sides, and  
5 bottom, including over in front, along side and around the mental protuberance and the central cleft area of the mandible of the user, and with its bottom in contact and being supported on the user's manubrium sterni, approaching but spaced from the bottom tracheal cartilages of the user's neck; and

a-2) performing step "c" while the block is in the placement of step "a-  
10 1."

**Claims 28 & 29** (Canceled, without prejudice to filing a further application on the  
subject matter(s) thereof).